



CALPEEK

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POLITICAL IMPACT OF CHECK BOUNCING SCANDAL COULD BE MAJOR IN CALIF. HOUSE ELECTIONS..

Editor's note: By now everyone knows that during a 39 month period, ending in December of 1990, about 70% of ALL members of the House of Representatives wrote bad checks which BOUNCED at the House's own internal bank. It's a major black eye for the House and an issue that is delighting backers of congressional TERM LIMITS. Here is CALPEEK's update & analysis...

...There are 9 current CALIF. members of the House and 1 former member (who is seeking reelection) who have bounced 1 or more checks. Of this group, 5 admitted their mistakes in an October 1991 article in Roll Call, a twice weekly publication covering Capitol Hill. The 5 include George Brown(D-Colton), Dana Rohrabacher(R-Los Alamitos), Elton Gallegly(R-Simi Valley), Richard Lehman(D-Fresno) and Matthew Martinez(D-Monte-bello)...

...An L.A. Times story about U.S. Rep. Pete Stark(D-Hayward) --- and his 17 bad checks, also listed Bob Dornan(R-Garden Grove) as a member who bounced a check. In Sept. and Oct. of 1991 there were stories in the San Diego Union which listed not only former Congressman Jim Bates(D) as having bounced checks, but also Bill Lowery(R) and Randy Cunningham(R)...

...How will CHECK KITING play in the upcoming primary and general? Regardless of the circumstances, an issue like this is made for a NEGATIVE CAMPAIGN, especially direct mail "hit pieces." The disclosures could mash Bates, who is in a very tough Demo primary in the new 50th C.D. in San Diego. Ditto for Dornan, who may have a tough GOP primary with former O.C. Judge Judy Ryan. Martinez has 3 Demo rivals, so it's likely his bouncing checks will surface. As for Rohrabacher, he's in a tough primary again-

st Costa Mesa Councilman Peter Buffa and Huntington Beach Councilman Peter Green. Check bouncing probably won't be an issue between Cunningham and Lowery in their GOP primary battle over the new 51st C.D. since they both admitted to bouncing at least one check...

...In the general, BOTH Brown and Lehman could be in deep trouble. Lehman is running for reelection in the 19th C.D., which leans GOP. Brown has been Mr. Clean up until this point, but this hot issue could hurt him in the new 42nd C.D. Gallegly too may have a problem in November, especially if the Demos nominate Anita Perez-Ferguson. As for Stark, a multimillionaire and former BANKER, he doesn't have a primary, but will face GOPer Vern Teyler, who used to work in Stark's bank. He's a rancher and runs a foster home. Stark could have BIG trouble if Teyler is well funded. Stay tuned...

1992 U.S. SENATE UPDATE: WITH THE 48-HOUR UEBERROTH THREAT OVER, IT'S BACK TO NORMAL.

Editor's note: Here is an update on the 2 U.S. Senate races in Calif...

● UEBERROTH WON'T RUN - For about 48 hours prior to the 5 p.m., Mar. 6 filing deadline, the 6-year Republican U.S. Senate primary looked as though it might get real complicated, with former baseball commissioner/businessman Peter Ueberroth doing a rather poor imitation of NY's Mario Cuomo, the Demo Governor who still sounds presidential, but won't run. The comparison to Cuomo was made by a GOP source, who thinks Ueberroth's indecisiveness is a serious problem. Regardless, the campaign of U.S. Rep. Tom Campbell is off life support and very thankful Ueberroth isn't running. The bulk of CALPEEK sources think that Ueberroth's candidacy would have hurt Campbell

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much more than Bruce Herschensohn...

• ORANGE CO. DEMO STRAW POLL - Some 348 Demos who attended the Orange Co. Demo Central Committee's annual convention in Anaheim Mar. 7 took part in a straw poll for the U.S. Senate. For the 2-yr. seat, former S.F. Mayor Dianne Feinstein mashed Demo Controller Gray Davis by a 231 to 100 vote margin. For the 6-yr. seat, U.S. Rep. Barbara Boxer got 196 to 108 for Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy and just 29 for U.S. Rep. Mel Levine. CALPEEK couldn't attend, but listened to Bill Press on KFI Radio, who did his show from the convention and interviewed all of the Demo U.S. Senate candidates, including Joe Alioto Jr. Yes, he did file and YES he is PRO-LIFE...

• PETER KING'S ODDS - L.A. Times columnist Peter King had a rather interesting piece in the Mar. 10 issue of the paper. He plays odds-maker with the U.S. Senate candidates in a rather humorous column. Here are his odds and we'll run his last paragraph...

2-year seat	
Gary Davis(D)	5-2
Dianne Feinstein(D)	2-1
Joe Alioto Jr.(D)	100-1

Bill Allen(R)	50-1
Bill Dannemeyer(R)	25-1
John Seymour(R)	3-2

6-yr. seat	
Sonny Bono(R)	20-1
Tom Campbell(R)	3-1
Bruce Herschensohn(R)	5-2

Barbara Boxer(D)	4-1
Mel Levine(D)	4-1
Leo McCarthy(D)	7-2

...Here's what King says next: "So how does it end up? Easy. Feinstein, angered by Davis, overcomes her malaise, rallies to victory and then clobbers Seymour. Herschensohn is endorsed late by Sonny and Cher and sneaks by Campbell, who never can explain why he once supported McGovern. Boxer and Levine gobble each other up, but revitalize the Calif. economy in the process, and McCarthy plods to victory, beating Herschensohn in the general."...

...HOWEVER, King left out the best part of

this scenario. McCarthy resigns his office to go to Washington and Gov. Pete Wilson(R) then appoints former, appointed U.S. Sen. John Seymour to take LMc's place...

CAMPAIGN '92: CALPEEK LOOKS AT HOT RACES.

Editor's note: Here is an update on some of the hotter primary races that will be taking place June 2nd, including some of the key races in Orange County...

• 20th S.D. SPECIAL - CALPEEK has learned that Marlene Bane, wife of Demo Assemblyman Tom Bane of Van Nuys, will manage the campaign of Carol Rowen, a moderate GOPer who is a very strong PRO-choice advocate. As CALPEEK readers are aware, this seat is vacant due to the resignation of Alan Robins(D-Van Nuys), who pled guilty to corruption charges. The leading Demo in this April 7 special is Senate President David Roberti, who at one point reportedly offered Bane \$25,000 to help coordinate his campaign. Bane refused Roberti's offer...

...Altogether there are 10 candidates in this special, 3 GOPers, 4 Demos and 1 each from the Green, P&F and Libertarian Party. Among the GOP candidates, CALPEEK should note there could be another strong contender, businessman David Honda. FYI: Don't look for Assemblyman Tom Bane to endorse Rowen, even though they are good friends. Sources say Bane wouldn't endorse outside his own party. At the same time, Bane has already said he WON'T endorse Roberti because the senate leader is PRO-life and is against the death penalty. And make no mistake, ABORTION and CRIME will be key issues in this contest...

• 1st C.D. - Just a quick update. Former Congressman Doug Bosco, who was defeated in 1990 by U.S. Rep. Frank Riggs(R), did NOT return papers. Sources say he was asked to back off and give a free ride to former Mendocino Co. Sup. Dan Hamburg(D)...

• 23rd S.D. - It's WWII in West L.A. as a tough Demo primary is already underway between incumbent State Sen. Herschel Rosenthal, Assemblyman Tom Hayden and activist Cathy O'Neill...

...Rosenthal, who will be 74 on Mar. 13, is chair of the Senate Public Utilities Cmt. According to the CA Political Almanac, "He is among the more traveled lawmakers, en-

joying a steady stream of junkets courtesy of corporations, most of which have business before the committee he chairs." Is there any doubt this WILL be an issue??? In his 18-page announcement, Rosenthal's staff misspelled the names to 2 endorsers: Insur. Comm. John Garimendi(GARAMENDI) and L.A. Councilwoman Ruth Gallanter(GALANTER). Not real swift...

...FYI: O'Neill is already airing ads on cable TV, touting her fight to stop the L.A. Co. Transportation Commission from awarding a railcar contract to a Japanese firm. The spot aired repeated on CNN during Super Tuesday coverage...

- 46th C.D. - Most CALPEEK readers have already heard about U.S. Rep. Bob Dornan's successful attempt to kowtow a group of GOP congresswomen who wanted to back the candidacy of former Orange Co. Sup. Court Judge Judith M. Ryan. Ryan's still running and will still have funding. On the Demo side the leading contenders in a 5-person field are Placentia Councilman Norm Eckenrode, attorney Rick Nichol and union rep/gay activist Jeff LeTourneau...

- 71st A.D. - Assemblyman Mickey Conroy (R-Santa Ana) won't have Mission Viejo Councilman Bob Curtis to worry with in the GOP primary. Curtis was pressured out of the race. This would have been a classic hard-liner (Conroy) vs. Wilson-type GOper (Curtis). The Demo in this race is Bea Foster of Santa Ana...

CALIF.'S NOVEMBER BALLOT MAY HAVE AS MANY AS 6 CONTROVERSIAL MEASURES FACING VOTERS.

Editor's note: With only one month to go before the April 17 deadline for submitting signatures to qualify for the November 1992 ballot, CALPEEK sources believe only a half dozen INITIATIVES may qualify --- if that many. Here's our update...

...Here are the initiatives that CALPEEK sources think have a GOOD SHOT at making CA's November ballot:

- The CA Death With Dignity initiative, also known as "TERMINAL ILLNESS. ASSISTANCE IN DYING." Sponsors have turned in more than 570,000 signatures (385,000 needed to qualify). We'll know any day now as to whether this measure has qualified...

- Snack Tax Repeal, sponsored by Assemblyman Dick Floyd(D-Gardena). Signatures are due Mar. 30 and CALPEEK sources think this measure will make it...

- The Pension Protection Act of 1992 is sponsored by a coalition of public employee unions and People's Advocate. This measure to stop raids on the pension systems is a SLAM DUNK to make the November ballot...

- Gov. Pete Wilson's Welfare and Budget Reform Act of 1992 is still in the field, but sources are confident it will qualify for November. What is NOT clear is whether the welfare portion of this measure is constitutional. FYI: a huge amount of direct mail supporting Wilson's measure (with petitions) hit in So. Calif. last week...

...In the TOO CLOSE TO CALL category, there are four(4) hot measures which have a shot at qualification. They include:

- The School Voucher initiative. Some CALPEEK sources think this measure is in trouble and may not make it. Others disagree, but think qualification would have been easier had the CA Republican Party endorsed this measure at the recent CRP convention in Burlingame. FYI: CALPEEK sources say that the GOP consulting firm of Spencer-Roberts is working on the NO side of this measure...

- TERM LIMITS got a huge boost this past week when the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear a challenge to CA's Prop. 130, thus the issue is still alive in the form of two initiatives from Anita Anderson of S.F. The three(3) term limit measures by former L.A. Co. Sup. Pete Schabarum are "ON HOLD" (sources say money is tight). Anderson's 2 measures (same wording on both, but one is a statute and the other a constitutional amendment) have funding. People's Advocate will drop a major mailing by the time CALPEEK hits the street...

- The CA Medical Assn.'s health insurance measure has received title & summary from the AG and is now on the street. Kimball Petition Mgt. is running the drive and has about 37 days to get between 15,000 and 20,000 names per day in order to qualify...

- The Economic Recovery Tax Relief Act

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of 1992 should also be back from the AG's office fairly soon. The sponsor is Lenny Goldberg. This measure would repeal the snack & newspaper sales tax and replace them with higher taxes on corporations...

...FYI: Off the street - the casino-style gaming initiative for Adelanto. Reason: the funding dried up, but that's denied by sources close to the sponsors...

CAMPAIGN '92: ASSEMBLYMAN BANE'S RETIREMENT CAUSES ANGER WITH SPEAKER & DEMOCRATS.

Editor's note: The BIGGEST surprise when filing ended Mar. 6 was that Assemblyman Tom Bane(D-Van Nuys) decided to retire --- WITHOUT telling Speaker Willie Brown or other key Demos. Here is our report...

...Numerous CALPEEK sources confirm that Demo Assembly Speaker Willie Brown was NOT at all pleased with the way Bane handled his decision to retire. Brown isn't alone. Sources also say that the powerful West L.A. organization of U.S. Reps. Henry Waxman & Howard Berman, along with the Berman & D'Agostino campaign management firm, also are furious. So are other Demos in the Assembly Caucus...

...Here's what happened. Bane knew that Westside Demos in the Waxman-Berman organization were having a tough time finding districts to run in because of the new reapportioned lines. By NOT telling W-B or Brown of his decision to retire, Bane upset a plan the Demos were cooking up for GOP Assemblyman Pat Nolan of Burbank, who now sports a HUGE SMILE. He's the BIG winner. The Demo plan was simple: with solid funding, run Assemblywoman Barbara Friedman against Nolan, forcing Nolan to raise and spend a ton on his own race. Nolan is one of the GOP's best fundraisers and now that he has a free hand, it could spell trouble for some moderate Republicans in June and for Demos in the fall...

...When Friedman found out about Bane's retirement, she pulled the plug on the Nolan trap, thus Demos are without a credible candidate to challenge Nolan. Friedman now plans to run for Bane's 40th A.D., even though she's not a Valley Girl per se (but she did go to Van Nuys High School)...

...Brown and Assembly Demos also want to

know what Bane plans to do with his own large campaign war chest, which might be \$400,000, according to various sources...

...What Demos aside from Friedman will run in the new 40th A.D.? CALPEEK sources expect a large field, but keep your eyes on Paul Krekorian, a young attorney who was once an intern for Bane. Part of Bane's war chest could be transferred to Krekorian because Prop. 73 campaign finance rules no longer apply. Other Demos include Joel Kelman and Gary Geuss. The GOP candidates include Horace Heidt and Jon Lorenzen...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- Campaign consultant Luke Breit has been hired by San Jose council candidate Frank Fiscalini and by 6th A.D. Demo candidate Greg Brockbank...
- Tim O'Brien takes over as production mgr. at American Data Management. He was most recently with the Clinton campaign...
- Nancy Lungren (Brian's wife) has joined The Hannaford Co., Inc. as VP/mgr. of the firm's Sacto office...
- Celes King III and Mark Dymally are co-chairs of Project Vote, a non-partisan voter registration project aimed primarily at potential voters in So. Central L.A. County...

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